

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Application No.** : 10/574,965  
**Applicant** : Masao Okuno  
**Filed** : April 7, 2006  
**TC/A.U.** : 3765  
**Examiner** : *To Be Assigned*  
**Docket No.** : 2933-166  
**Customer No.** : 6449  
**Confirmation No.** : 5909

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This amendment is being submitted prior to the receipt of a first Office Action.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.